

STATEMENT OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-32. (canceled)

33. (new) An article of footwear comprising:

an insole comprising a fore part and a rear part, the fore part and rear part each comprising a rigid periphery attached to a central area of stretchable material;

an upper having a lower edge attached to the insole periphery;

an outsole attached to at least a portion of the insole periphery, the outsole having an upper surface defining at least one depression in a position underlying the stretchable material;

a cushioned insert having at least one extension from its lower surface in a position corresponding to a depression in the upper outsole surface, the extension deforming the stretchable material overlying that depression such that the extension is receivable within the depression.

34. (new) The article of claim 33, wherein the extension on said cushioned insert comprises a heel portion.

35. (new) The article of claim 33, wherein the outsole is injection molded and the at least one depression is formed by a last positioned against the upper insole surface with at least one portion of the last pressing against the stretchable material such that the corresponding material-covered last portion extends below the insole periphery.

36. (new) An article of footwear comprising:

an insole comprising a fore part and a rear part, the fore part and rear part each comprising a rigid periphery attached to a central area of stretchable central material;

an upper having a lower edge attached to the insole periphery;

an injection molded outsole, the upper outsole surface defined by the lower insole surface in combination with a last pressing against the stretchable material such that at least one portion of

the material-covered last extends below the insole periphery to form a corresponding depression in the upper outsole surface; and

a cushioned insert having at least one extension from its lower surface in a position corresponding to a depression, the extension deforming the stretchable material overlying that depression such that the extension is receivable within the depression.

37. (new) A method of making an article of footwear, the method comprising the steps of:

providing an insole comprising a fore part and a rear part, the fore part and rear part each comprising a rigid periphery attached to a central area of stretchable material;

attaching a lower edge of an upper to the insole periphery;

positioning a last against the upper insole surface to define an upper surface for an injection molded outsole, at least one portion of the last pressing against the stretchable material such that the corresponding material-covered last portion extends below the insole periphery;

injection molding an outsole;

removing the last, the at least one material-covered last portion extending below the insole periphery defining a corresponding depression in the upper surface of the molded outsole; and

inserting a cushioned member having at least one extension from its lower surface in a position corresponding to a depression, the extension deforming the stretchable material overlying that depression such that the extension is receivable within the depression.

* * * * *